

Attorney's Docket No. K&A 14-0011
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APPLICATION

FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

SPECIFICATION

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT I, **BENJAMIN ALFRED**, a citizen of
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, have invented a new and useful
PLUNGER of which the following is a specification:

PLUNGER

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Field of the Invention

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The present invention relates to plungers and more particularly pertains to a new plunger for forcing a blockage through a trap of a toilet.

15 Description of the Prior Art

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The use of plungers is known in the prior art. U.S. Patent No. 6,035,455 describes a device for using an actuated air cylinder to force air into a trap to clear debris from the trap. Another type of plunger is U.S. Patent No. 6,393,626 having a valve positioned in a plunger to allow fluid to be drawn into the plunger from outside of the plunger and then forced by the plunger into the trap of the toilet to clear a blockage from the trap. U.S. Patent No. 6,032,301 has a plunger with pressure ball capable of being filled with air under pressure and storing the pressurized air for a concentrated release through a correlative shaft to clear a blockage from a pipe.

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While these devices fulfill their respective, particular objectives and requirements, the need remains for a device that has certain improved features provides for increased pressure and speed of fluid to clear a blockage without external fluid sources.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

5 The present invention meets the needs presented above by
plunger portion with a bulb member and a sleeve member where the
sleeve member has a diameter less than a diameter of the bulb
member and thereby accelerates the fluid exiting the bulb to
facilitate forcing the debris through the trap in the toilet.

10 Still yet another object of the present invention is to provide
a new plunger that provides a sleeve member that can extend into
the trap of the toilet to facilitate directing the force of the fluid
into the trap.

15 Even still another object of the present invention is to
provide a new plunger that provides the sleeve member with a
plurality of annular rings to form a seal between the sleeve member
and the trap to inhibit fluid blowing back between the sleeve
member and the trap when the bulb member is compressed.

20 To this end, the present invention generally comprises a
handle member being designed for being gripped by a hand of a
user, a plunger portion is coupled to the handle member. The
plunger portion is designed for being positioned in the bowl of the
25 toilet. The plunger portion is designed for forcing fluid down a
trap of the toilet to force debris, lodged in the trap, through the
trap to allow the bowl of the toilet to drain.

30 There has thus been outlined, rather broadly, the more
important features of the invention in order that the detailed
description thereof that follows may be better understood, and in
order that the present contribution to the art may be better

appreciated. There are additional features of the invention that will be described hereinafter and which will form the subject matter of the claims appended hereto.

5 The objects of the invention, along with the various features of novelty which characterize the invention, are pointed out with particularity in the claims annexed to and forming a part of this disclosure.

10 **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

 The invention will be better understood and objects other than those set forth above will become apparent when consideration is given to the following detailed description thereof. Such
15 description makes reference to the annexed drawings wherein:

 Figure 1 is a perspective view of a new plunger according to the present invention.

20 Figure 2 is an enlarged perspective view of the plunger portion of the present invention.

 Figure 3 is a cross-sectional view of the present invention taken along line 3-3 of Figure 2.

25 **DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENT**

 With reference now to the drawings, and in particular to Figures 1 through 3 thereof, a new plunger embodying the
30 principles and concepts of the present invention and generally designated by the reference numeral 10 will be described.

As best illustrated in Figures 1 through 3, the plunger 10 generally comprises a handle member 12 being designed for being gripped by a hand of a user.

5 A plunger portion 14 is coupled to the handle member 12. The plunger portion 14 is designed for being positioned in the bowl of the toilet. The plunger portion 14 is designed for forcing fluid down a trap of the toilet to force debris, lodged in the trap, through the trap to allow the bowl of the toilet to drain. The plunger
10 portion 14 comprises a flexible material for permitting the plunger portion 14 to conform to the trap and direct the fluid into the trap.

 The plunger portion 14 comprises a bulb member 16 and a sleeve member 18. The sleeve member 18 is coupled to the bulb
15 member 16 whereby the sleeve member 18 is in fluid communication with the bulb member 16. The bulb member 16 is coupled to the handle member 12 whereby the handle member 12 is for forcing fluid in the bulb member 16 through the sleeve member 18 and into the trap of the toilet to force the debris through the trap
20 of the toilet.

 The bulb member 16 comprises a perimeter wall 20. The perimeter wall 20 defines an interior space 22 of the bulb member 16. The interior space 22 of the bulb member 16 is designed for
25 containing a fluid to be forced through the trap of the toilet when the bulb portion is compressed by the handle member 12 being actuated by the user.

 The sleeve member 18 comprises a peripheral wall 24. The
30 peripheral wall 24 defines a bore 26 extending through the sleeve

member 18 whereby the bore 26 is in fluid communication with the interior space 22 of the bulb member 16. The bore 26 is designed for directing the fluid from the bulb member 16 down the trap of the toilet to force the debris through the trap.

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The bulb member 16 comprises a latitudinal diameter of about 5-1/4 inches and a longitudinal diameter of about 12-1/2 inches. The sleeve member 18 comprises a length of about 3-1/2 inches and a diameter of about 3 inches. The decrease in diameter between the bulb member 16 and the sleeve member 18 produces an effect similar to a nozzle and forces the fluid from the bulb member 16 through the sleeve member 18 at an increased pressure to facilitate forcing the debris through the trap of the toilet.

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The plunger portion 14 comprises a plurality of annular rings 28, each of the annular rings 28 outwardly extends from the sleeve member 18 whereby each of the annular rings 28 is positioned substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the plunger portion 14. The annular rings 28 are designed for engaging the surface of the bowl to provide a seal between the sleeve member 18 and the bowl of the toilet to inhibit the fluid forced from the bulb member 16 from blowing back between the sleeve member 18 and the bowl of the toilet.

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In use, the user insert the plunger portion 14 into the bowl of the toilet so that sleeve is inserted into the opening for the trap of the toilet. The user then forces the handle member 12 downward which compresses the bulb member 16 and forces the fluid in the bulb member 16 through the sleeve member 18 and into the trap to force the debris through the trap and allow the bowl of the toilet to

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drain. The process is repeated until the blockage has been removed and normal operation of the toilet can resume.

With respect to the above description then, it is to be realized
5 that the optimum dimensional relationships for the parts of the
invention, to include variations in size, materials, shape, form,
function and manner of operation, assembly and use, are deemed
readily apparent and obvious to one skilled in the art, and all
equivalent relationships to those illustrated in the drawings and
10 described in the specification are intended to be encompassed by
the present invention.

Therefore, the foregoing is considered as illustrative only of
the principles of the invention. Further, since numerous
15 modifications and changes will readily occur to those skilled in the
art, it is not desired to limit the invention to the exact construction
and operation shown and described, and accordingly, all suitable
modifications and equivalents may be resorted to, falling within the
scope of the invention.